(b) if so, the quantity of water flowing annually in the rivers of this basin alongwith the names of the same;

(c) the assessment regarding the quantity of water that can be utilised from each river; and

(d) the quantity of water being used from each river at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The mean annual run off in river Ganga in India is estimated to be 501.6 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM). Some of the major tributaries of river Ganga are Ramganga, Yamuna, Tons, Gomati, Ghagra, Son, Gandak, Kosi and Mahananda. An assessment of the quantity of Water that can be utilised and the quantity that is being utilised has not been made separately for each tributary of Ganga. For the basin as whole, the quantity of water that can be utilised annually is estimated to the 250 BCM. During the year 2000, the utilisation was estimated to be 150.8 BCM for irrigation, 7.9 BCM for domestic use and 5.9 BCM for industrial use.

National Water Policy

685. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Water Policy formulated in 1988 clearly provided that the order of priority for water use should be first for drinking followed by irrigation and the last should be for industry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that water has become a commodity in Gujarat and big farmers grow water intensive cash crops which need large quantity of water; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per the information obtained from Government of Gujarat

out of total irrigation, only 38% is used for cash crops by farmers having average land holding of three hectares.

(c) Encouraging or enforcing any changes in the cropping pattern to utilize the available water is in the jurisdiction of State Government. However, the Union Government have circulated a model Bill to regulate and control the development of Ground Water to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation in this regard.

Pagladiya Dam Project of Assam

686. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the project execution status of various phases of Pagladiya dam project in Assam;

(b) the number of families to be affected by the project and details of rehabilitation package formulated so far indicating total cost involvement;

(c) the reasons for delay in actual work and rehabilitation package and the action contemplated to accelerate such activity; and

(d) the total outlay already utilized and projected investment year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Pagladiya Dam Project has been approved by Government of India for execution in January, 2001 for an estimated cost of Rs. 542.90 crore. As per the construction programme, the construction works such as development of infrastructure and construction of model